

**REMARKS:**

Claims 6-8,10-12 and 37 are allowed. Claims 6 and 37 are amended herein to correct the same error in both claims as set for the in the Examiner's amendment in the Notice of Allowability.

In claims 6 and 37, paragraphs h3 reads:

"the authentication string AS is E(ACNSTI , PK), where ACNSTI is a predetermined constant and E is a predetermined symmetric key encryption algorithm."

The "PK" should be "AK" as evidenced in step 112 in Fig. 3, and in original claims 1, 8, 13, 27 and 19, as well as various places in the specification. We request that h3 in claims 6 and 37 and the reason for allowance on page 8 of the Notice of Allowance be reword as follows:

"the authentication string AS is as E(ACNSTI, AKPK), where ACNSTI is a predetermined constant, and E is a predetermined symmetric key encryption algorithm and AK is an authentication key derived from password P."

Pursuant to 37CFR §1.312, it is hereby requested that these amendments be entered prior to issuance of the patent. Applicant's attorney may be reached by telephone at (203) 924-3217.

Respectfully submitted,



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